

BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

JUNE 2, 2011

A meeting of the Budget Review Committee was held Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 7:02 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane, Chair presided.

Members of Committee present: Alderman-at-Large Mark S. Cookson, Vice Chair
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman Diane Sheehan
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja

Members not in Attendance: Alderman Richard P. Flynn
Alderman Jeffrey T. Cox

Also in Attendance: Mayor Donnalee Lozeau
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Michael J. Tabacsko
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Kathryn D. Vitale

Chairman Deane

I received a phone call from Alderman Cox earlier today and he had a personal family conflict that he had to address, and he will not be able to attend this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

Chairman Deane

Alderman Sheehan I have a response to your questions last night, I have an answer for you pertaining to the library contract analysis. We will address that later. I thought you may have an interest. I got that today. I also have an amended version of the wage scheduling that we had discussed last night so we can discuss that a little later too. This meeting is going to run until about 9:50 p.m. then I want to address that library contract, and whatever we don't finish this evening we will just push out to another meeting.

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

General Government

Board of Aldermen (503)

Chairman Deane

There are no revenues, and the budget starts on page 62. I think Sue is presenting, Ms. Lovering, our Legislative Manager.

Sue Lovering, Legislative Manager

Thank you Alderman Deane. Basically we have two digit line items, 11 and 12, represent a half percent increase in those salary lines. There are no other changes in any line items with the exception of the lease for the new photocopier, which is reduced by approximately \$440.00. That is a result of Purchasing being able to negotiate the lease price by bundling several photocopiers into the same lease terms.

Alderman Sheehan

Pardon me, there is no audio coming through, only video.

Chairman Deane

Well the switch is on. I think it is working.

Alderman Sheehan

I was asked to repeat that.

Chairman Deane

I think the fellow from inside the little room back there that does the work would have come running in here, but I don't see him. Do you want to continue Sue? You were into photocopier leasing...

Sue Lovering

Photocopier leasing, there is a reduction. Everything else is zeroed out. I think last year with the maintenance for the photocopier we reduced that by 10,000 copies saving us some. That will remain the same at \$721. We're coming in right around that number, 70,000 a year, so we are confident we don't need to increase that. Hopefully we can even continue to reduce that.

With the new photocopier, we chose not to upgrade to a color copier, but we do now have the capability to scan in color so any maps or other materials, photos that are submitted at meetings can be scanned and uploaded in color to the minutes on the website.

Chairman Deane

Okay. Does anyone have any questions on this operating budget?

Alderman Cookson

My only question was how much do we spend annually on the package that we, as a Board of Aldermen, receive? Do we have that breakout? The copies that you make for each one of us on a weekly basis?

Sue Lovering

I don't have a breakdown on that. I used to run many, 65 or 70 years ago. I am down to about 21, which includes the 15 Aldermen whether they are members of a standing committee or not. The minutes are only photocopied for City Clerk and the Library now, everything else is electronic. But I don't have a cost on the weekly paper, toner, or hours.

Alderman Cookson

But all of that would be included in line item #41, Office Supplies? You would be able to provide the copies to the Board of Aldermen for \$1,150 annually? Is that what that number represents?

Sue Lovering

That is yes.

Alderman Cookson

The delivery of the packets is that cost consumed by this department or is it consumed by Purchasing?

Sue Lovering

Purchasing.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you.

Sue Lovering

You are welcome.

Chairman Deane

Let the record reflect that Aldermen Melizzi-Golja and Vitale are present. Are there any other questions of Ms. Lovering?

Alderman Clemons

Just want to take the opportunity to say that Ms. Lovering you do a wonderful job for the Board of Aldermen and commend you for all of the work that you do. It is hard work and it is time consuming. Thank you very much. Job well done.

Sue Lovering

Thank you.

Alderman Sheehan

I would like to echo Alderman Clemons' and add a really good job on getting all of the Pennichuck stuff done in a timely fashion. That was just a lot of work to do in a really fast amount of time. It must have been very daunting, but you did it and thank you.

Sue Lovering

You are welcome. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

I think we are all on the same page. Thank you very much.

Alderman Cookson

I just have one final question. I noticed that the Board of Aldermen has a zero percent change. Did we not have to abide by the Mayor's suggested 3% cut?

Sue Lovering

I don't want to say we did not have to abide. President McCarthy asked me to continue to use zero based budgeting to analyze what we have done historically and what we felt we could use to continue to run the offices. We have been zeroed out for a long time.

Alderman Cookson

Understood. I was just curious about the 3% request.

Sue Lovering

It was very difficult. I think if our bottom line was higher; to absorb a percentage is easier on a larger bottom line. We are so small it is crippling. I put together, as I had in the past, exactly what I felt was the bare necessities to continue the product that we give each week and it came out at zero.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you.

Sue Lovering

You are welcome.

Chairman Deane

Our operating budget with our two employees along with our stipends is about \$169,000. The total bottom line is \$175,000 so a very small percentage is office related items. Thank you.

Sue Lovering

You are welcome.

Legal Department (502)

Chairman Deane

Next we go to page 60. This is the Legal Department. They have no revenues.

Mayor Lozeau

Mr. Chairman if I could, just on that comment from Alderman Cookson, the Board of Aldermen's budget is in the general government division and so therefore...

Chairman Deane

It was all part of the 3% reduction similar to other like the Division of Public Works.

Mayor Lozeau

Yes.

Chairman Deane

Okay. Attorney McNamee if you would like to give us an overview of your operating budget.

James McNamee, Esq.

We are also a small department. We have three lawyers and two legal assistants. The budget that you see in the book here doesn't have a 3% decrease it has a .7% increase and that is due primarily to the fact that we have had a recent promotion to Deputy Corporation Counsel, which was an increase of about \$10,000. To try and balance that off we have made some cuts in the operating account. Primarily you will see the cuts are in the area of legal services – outside services. The filing and recording fees actually is going to be fairly close for us this year at a \$700 proposal, but we think if there is enough in that overall two digit we will be able to cover any overage on it.

We're significantly reducing litigation related expenses and outside counsel services. We are finding more that we are doing most of the work in-house and if there is work to be done that requires hiring outside counsel we actually, in putting together the budget I said this would be one where if a department has a litigated matter that we have to handle or that we have to assign to outside counsel we are going to be looking to them to find it in their budget the money or to otherwise identify funds to pay that.

We tend to try and do most of it in-house. We do some of the liability cases, we do all of the tax abatement cases, and the case, which you saw in the paper of course, the Broad Street Parkway case was handled in-house as well. We also do all of the labor arbitration cases, and that is a good example of a case where there is a cost attendant on that because you have to pay for an arbitrator, and when we have those arbitrations we will have the department from which the grievance arose pay the arbitrator's bill.

It is a pretty significant cut of over \$11,000 to the operating budget, but I think that we can work within that with that understanding that any litigated related costs are going to have to be paid from outside the department.

Chairman Deane

I know things aren't planned, you know your litigation things just come up, but what sort of load does that put on the two Deputies pertaining to their time thus far this year? Because they deal with negotiations right, all three of you do negotiations?

James McNamee, Esq.

Two of us handle the negotiations and two of us, the same two, tend to handle the grievances that are filed that go to arbitration. We tend to split up the load I would say fairly evenly. This proposed budget isn't increasing the load of litigation unless the City gets sued a lot more or we have more grievances, but that tends to be fairly even. I think the outside counsel services got very high in past years because we did have a number of matters that got referred out, actually before I was Corporation Counsel. If you look back

at the budgets over the last three years, I have been whittling that down. It is something of a leap of faith to just cut it down to the \$1,000, but I think we can do it. I don't think it will extraordinarily increase the workload in the department.

Chairman Deane

Thank you. Are there questions?

Alderman Clemons

My question was along the lines of what you just asked Alderman Deane, but I guess more pointedly, if there is some kind of major issue that the City needs to take up, where would we normally get that money from? For example, I guess where I am going is like in the case of when we sue like the Claremont Decision, if something like that were to occur in the State where the Board of Aldermen or the City felt compelled to do something along those lines, how would we pay for something like that?

James McNamee, Esq.

You would have to find the money someplace. I would say probably contingency.

Alderman Clemons

Okay.

James McNamee, Esq.

You would have to find a funding source for it if it was going to be outside counsel and in a case like that it probably would be a specialty matter. The two other ones that are good examples that could get referred outside, well of course Pennichuck is one that has in the past; it has required its own appropriations. We were able to handle the Broad Street Parkway case brought by the Tampusi family in-house, and actually that is on appeal now to the Supreme Court and we will be handling that in-house as well. So we can absorb some of that. Other items that are specialty will probably need to be referred and we need to find a funding source.

Property and personal liability cases and even employment cases that we refer out all are covered in the property and liability fund. Certain tax abatement matters are being handled out of the overlay.

Alderman Clemons

Okay.

James McNamee, Esq.

Those are the major sources, that and contingency.

Alderman Clemons

So am I to understand that we probably would not have used that line anyway for something as large as those...okay.

James McNamee, Esq.

It has been pretty stable. You can see I think that outside counsel services is not particularly, there is more in it now, but as off March 31st only \$130.00 had been spent out of it.

Alderman Clemons

Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

What are your alternative funding sources outside of contingency? You said anything dealing with property and casualty comes out of the insurance?

James McNamee, Esq.

Yeah, the insurance fund.

Chairman Deane

Are there any other?

James McNamee, Esq.

We do have a couple of cases being handled on the tax abatement side.

Chairman Deane

So that comes out of overlay.

James McNamee, Esq.

Overlay yeah.

Chairman Deane

Thank you.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. You mentioned that if there were something that you had to represent or Corporation Counsel had to represent for another department or division within the city that they would be responsible for incurring that cost.

James McNamee, Esq.

Right, well if it is Corporation Counsel's Office handling it they of course won't have any legal fees because we will be handling the legal fees, but we do look to the departments to handle the expense. For instance, the fees of an arbitrator.

Alderman Cookson

Are those fees set and by whom?

James McNamee, Esq.

The arbitrators are chosen and then they have a fee schedule. They all tend to be on an hourly rate. They charge for their time to come and hear the case and they charge for their time to decide the case, and they can range I would say just ballpark \$1,500 to \$2,500.

Alderman Cookson

Per hour.

James McNamee, Esq.

No. I'm sorry, total.

Alderman Cookson

In the case where the union and the employer board with regard to education, they are negotiating right now with a mediator? Is there a mediator involved?

James McNamee, Esq.

The Board of Education I think is in mediation with one of their unions.

Alderman Cookson

That doesn't involve Corporation Counsel at this point in time?

James McNamee, Esq.

No. As a matter of fact the Board of Education hires outside counsel from their budget for counsel, and I don't know what their arrangement with the mediator is, I assume they are paying them too.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. I had an additional question about your education and seminars, 94020 Continuing Education. Are you anticipating an expenditure of your current fiscal year's budget by the end of this month?

James McNamee, Esq.

I think we are going to come close to it. We had not spent much as of March 31st, but we have had a number of seminars that we have taken recently. This is required for our continuing certification as lawyers, and the deadline for completing these requirements is June 30th so there is a flurry of activity in that account at the end of the year.

Alderman Cookson

So you are cramming at the end of the month is what you are telling me.

James McNamee, Esq.

Exactly. Well we are cramming for the final exams.

Alderman Cookson

Exactly. Okay. And then with regard to membership dues, can you speak to that as well?

James McNamee, Esq.

That is a pretty straight on what it costs. We have to pay New Hampshire Bar Association dues, which are fairly expensive especially since there are three counsel. You pay more as you go along and we're senior staff with great experience. There is also American Bar Association dues in there.

Alderman Cookson

Is that fee paid at the end of June as well?

James McNamee, Esq.

Yes. As a matter of fact, yes. I think one of them is due, I can't recall if we have escrowed it in the past. The Supreme Court bill used to be due on June 30th, but then they have extended that. I think what we do is when we get the bill we pay it rather than holding it over.

Alderman Cookson

Is there a reduction in your fee schedule for next year, seeing a reduction in your FY12 budget?

James McNamee, Esq.

No. I was just bringing it down to what it really was going to have to cover. The \$200 deduction is that what you are talking about?

Alderman Cookson

Correct. So you don't anticipate spending \$2,500 this month you expect something less than \$2,500?

James McNamee, Esq.

Yeah. I think we are going to have at least \$200 left.

Alderman Cookson

Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

On the legal assistants, have those positions been filled for the duration of the fiscal year?

James McNamee, Esq.

Yes.

Chairman Deane

They have.

Alderman Sheehan

I'm not really sure, this may be better for the Mayor, but I see a lot of variation with different groups; some we find that we are paying to keep their credentials and others if they need to get education or something to complete, teachers for example, where we are not doing 100% certification. I'm just curious with attorneys and bar association fees, why the City is doing 100% of that.

James McNamee, Esq.

I think the answer is that we wouldn't be able to practice law if we didn't have those fees paid.

Alderman Sheehan

And I understand that, but you can also practice law outside the City can't you?

James McNamee, Esq.

Not without paying those fees.

Alderman Sheehan

I know, but it just seems like a personal expense to me where we do that with a lot of employees. No?

Mayor Lozeau

Actually Alderman Sheehan Attorney McNamee can't practice outside of city government as long as he is City Counsel.

Alderman Sheehan

Okay.

Mayor Lozeau

And other fees are different. A lot of them are negotiated like in the UAW contract there is an education tuition allowance. A lot of that is actually at 100%, some is less. For teachers it is different. For each different group it is different depending on what their certifications are. We do some things different for Assessing than we might for Legal. They just run the gamut based on some were negotiated and some were just decided with some of the merit employees.

Alderman Sheehan

Okay. I'm just curious because I haven't seen a lot of consistency; the librarians are at 50%, the teachers

have a lottery, others have 100% so just looking for some better understanding of why. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Are you all set?

Alderman Sheehan

I am.

Chairman Deane

Thank you.

Alderman Cookson

I was just going to share Alderman Sheehan's same concern. I think one of the things that I have noticed over the past several years following the budget is that your continuing education within the different departments is utilized at different levels; some people certainly take advantage of it and other departments at the end of their fiscal year have used very little of the opportunity that is available to them. I'm not sure why, what the reason is, but this is one of the line items that I have been watching for the past several years where it is quite noticeable some people, like I said, take advantage of the opportunity and other people don't. It is unfortunate. I think it is a great perk to have and I think more people should take advantage of it.

James McNamee, Esq.

If I may, we are talking about that at the negotiating table with some unions. In some cases, those are just negotiated amounts that can or cannot be used, and it is a perk or a benefit. I'm not sure about teachers, I think once they are certified they are certified, I don't think they have an ongoing requirement, but I could be wrong with that.

Alderman Melizzi-Golja

They do.

James McNamee, Esq.

They do, okay. So teachers, the legal department, probably some in engineering, there are going to be different departments where it is absolutely mandatory you have to have this certification in order to practice so in order to have those people able to do the work for the city we pick up the cost of the COE courses and the certifications.

Chairman Deane

Any other questions of the legal department? Being none, thank you Attorney McNamee.

Financial Services

Financial Services (512)

Chairman Deane

Their revenues start on page 34.

Mayor Lozeau

Mr. Chairman if I could ask Mr. Fredette to join us please.

Chairman Deane

Mr. Fredette is the presenter. Mr. Fredette please join us. Now for the startling economic news from the Financial Services Department.

Mayor Lozeau

The economy is in trouble.

Alderman Cookson

They met your 3% reduction.

Mayor Lozeau

That they did.

Chairman Deane

Dave you weren't supposed to meet the 3% reduction in the revenues. Would you take this back and fix it? Mayor before Treasurer Fredette gets started; can you lead into this and explain the projections and how they were figured on what we were looking at?

Mayor Lozeau

Sure. A lot of it is looking at 3 year averages. Some of it, like I will call your attention to the interest earned on investment, so if you look at that line, in FY09 we had \$2.6 million there. In FY10 we had \$2.1 million. In FY11 we had \$1.5 million. This year we are looking at putting in \$600,000. We had years in 2006, 2007 all before I arrived, apparently were really good years, banner years at over \$3 million. We were receiving rates back on our interest of 5.2%, 5.5% was pretty typical. Now we're below a percent, significantly below actually.

Some of that you see here based on what our experience has been. Then others are, as I said, a three year average. This was a collaboration between the Financial Services Department, myself, including the CFO, the Treasurer, and we really looked at what was coming in and what we thought our bets projections would be, and that is really what you see represented here. When you look at like the motor vehicle revenues, and some of this is what we have talked about when we have talked about the City's financial snapshot, we have seen a slight growth coming in our motor vehicles. We don't think we are going to hit the target of the \$10.8 million, we think we will probably be \$200,000 or \$300,000 below that, but we have seen just below a half a percent growth in that. We have a bit of a confidence level thinking that we might actually hit the \$10.8 million this year, which is why we made the decision to use that number again.

Chairman Deane

That is under Auto Permits?

Mayor Lozeau

Right.

Chairman Deane

That number is flat.

Mayor Lozeau

Right. But we're not going to hit the \$10.8 million this year. But we don't think we will be much below; somewhere between \$200,000 and \$300,000 less. But as I said because we have seen a slight growth we think we might be able to hit that.

And then there are other things like the Housing Authority, railroad tax, those are set by specific state or federal formulas so they tell us what we are going to get and that is what we put in the book. It is basically a mix of things.

Then there are some things that you see zeroes in because they get paid at year end like...

Chairman Deane

The Timber Yield Tax.

Mayor Lozeau

The Timber Yield Tax really is dependent on whether people are out there pulling the permits to do some of that work, but the Fish Hatcheries, Parking Meter Violations; we put those in at the end and things like that.

Alderman Vitale

I had another quick question on the timber yield tax. Is that for personal properties or is that properties that are under current use for the timber or is it anybody that...

Mayor Lozeau

It could be any.

Alderman Vitale

It is anybody?

Mayor Lozeau

Yes.

Alderman Vitale

So is that like a common thing for people to take down trees and don't pull a permit, is that common?

David Fredette, Treasurer/Tax Collector

That don't pull a permit?

Alderman Vitale

If there is a tax on it do they have to pull a permit to...

Mayor Lozeau

There is a requirement by the State is how it works and it works through the Assessing Office so if somebody is going to go in and clear cut something and the purpose behind it is to take the benefit of the timber, that is when the tax kicks in. If you are in your back yard and you are cutting down a tree that doesn't apply.

Chairman Deane

It hasn't got to that point. They are not going to tax you for pruning your shrubs. I am sure they thought about it, but...

Alderman Vitale

No, but I wondered if you went in and you saw like a whole property being cut then that is what it is.

Mayor Lozeau

Right. Exactly.

Alderman Vitale

Okay.

Mayor Lozeau

The other thing I would call your attention to too now that I'm ...

Chairman Deane

Taking a hard look at this page?

Mayor Lozeau

Well no I have taken a hard look before, but I just thought that it might be something that just jumps out at you so the 526 and the 527 line, the gain (loss) on investments and the unrealized gain (loss) that is really just something that our auditors have required us to keep in the budget book. It is really just an accounting thing. It is not real money that we would or wouldn't realize.

Chairman Deane

Was that a requirement through...

Mayor Lozeau

Through the auditors. There are a few things like that in the book that you will see like that, but on this page those are those.

Chairman Deane

If we have nothing under 543, if we have no revenue pertaining to parking meter violations, do we know what that current number is right now?

Mayor Lozeau

It will come in by year end. We know it is going to be below the \$290,000, which is why we looked at putting the \$225,000 in.

Chairman Deane

How do you know it is below the \$290,000 if we don't know what the number is?

Mayor Lozeau

We know how some of the months are comparing to other months.

Chairman Deane

You must have a number.

David Fredette

We look at revenue and expenses and you can pretty much estimate.

Mayor Lozeau

Exactly. Predict.

Chairman Deane

But we do have a number of what we....

David Fredette

It is going to be under \$290,000 for sure yes.

Chairman Deane

So what have we collected to date? Does anybody know?

David Fredette

Annually we collect now, it has gone down over the years, but annually we collect about \$550,000.

Chairman Deane

That is annually.

David Fredette

Annually yes.

Chairman Deane

So we have no idea what we have collected to date?

David Fredette

I believe it is a little over \$400,000. I looked at it about a week ago. I don't remember the exact number.

Chairman Deane

So this would be split out of the fiscal year is that what is happening?

Mayor Lozeau

No, the expenses come out of it.

Chairman Deane

The expenses come out of it, so we have collected about \$400,000 to date and we are budgeting for \$225,000 minus the expenses?

David Fredette

Next year yes. Parking ticket revenue has gone down considerably over the years. Our peak year was I think 2006 or 2007 we earned \$740,000 and it has been going down every since and the number of tickets issued have gone down considerably. I think some people just catch on after a while about overnight parking and the rules so they don't issue as many tickets.

Chairman Deane

So maybe our meter revenue might have, is that flat too? People paying the meters now instead of the tickets, is that what is happening?

David Fredette

That is still one of the big ticket items is the expired meter and overnight parking. Those are the big ones.

Chairman Deane

Does anyone have any questions?

Alderman Cookson

This is a forward looking question actually; when you determined the budget for FY12, it was in the absence of any suggestions by the Services Advisory Committee and anything that this board might do with regard to parking meter, parking meter fees, parking violation fees. Those numbers were not used to determine this forecast of \$225,000 for FY12?

Mayor Lozeau

This is just the violations line. When transportation comes up tonight and we talk about...

Alderman Cookson

So we are looking at 543.

Mayor Lozeau

Right, which is just violations not use of meters. I guess I don't understand the question Alderman Cookson, I'm sorry.

Alderman Cookson

Maybe Alderman McCarthy can help me ask the question a little bit better, but I believe that some of the suggestions by the Services Advisory Committee also include an increase in violation fees. My question is this number that you are forecasting for \$225,000 does not take in to account any suggestions by the Services Advisory Committee or any actions that this Board of Aldermen might take at a future point in time.

Mayor Lozeau

That would be correct.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you.

Mayor Lozeau

You are welcome.

Alderman Tabacsko

There was a mention just a minute ago though that the number that is in here is a net number after expenses. What are the expenses that come out of this?

David Fredette

It is anything related to parking enforcement and includes all of the parking enforcement officers, their

vehicles, their clothing; it includes several people in my area that handle the parking tickets. I think I said vehicles. They usually buy a new vehicle every couple of years and they are around \$25,000.

Alderman Tabacsko

Is it the salaries?

David Fredette

Oh yes.

Alderman Cookson

And benefits.

Mayor Lozeau

And benefits.

Alderman Tabacsko

Salaries, benefits, and vehicles and equipment, but not the meters themselves or any of...

David Fredette

No that comes out of the parking department.

Mayor Lozeau

Vehicles are on my list to look at, what kind of replacement vehicles they will be. I am pretty certain that they won't be the ones they have now.

Alderman Wilshire

No SUVs?

Chairman Deane

Are we going to get them some Excursions?

Mayor Lozeau

I am not going to say gold carts, but, smaller... there are some options.

Chairman Deane

Does anyone else have any questions in the revenue area? Being none, their appropriations start on page 80. Mr. Fredette the floor is all yours if you would like to walk us through this.

David Fredette

Mr. Chairman, 512, Financial Services, just to make sure everybody realizes it actually includes different areas of financial services. It includes the CFO's office; it includes the accounts payable office, payroll office, and my area. My area has really got the tax, motor vehicle registration, traffic violations, which is parking enforcement, and the Treasurer's office.

There really were only two significant changes to the budget. One was 11991, a \$30,000 reduction, and the other was line 53025, consultant services, a \$9,000 reduction. Those are the two significant changes in the budget.

Chairman Deane

Can you talk to the \$30,000 reduction?

David Fredette

Well we had to make some changes to try to meet the guidelines, and so that \$30,000 reduction is across the boards all of those different areas I mentioned, and we are going to look at reallocating some of the work. Also attrition might help with that. We have different options we are going to be looking at to meet that \$30,000.

Chairman Deane

So it hasn't been met yet, it has got to be met in this fiscal year somehow.

David Fredette

FY12 yes.

Chairman Deane

Are all of these positions filled?

David Fredette

I have one empty position in the tax office. It has been empty for about 2 months.

Mayor Lozeau

And he has made an offer.

David Fredette

I made an offer. That person that was there got a promotion and is working in the accounting department.

Alderman Cookson

Mr. Chairman, which line item was that for the vacancy?

David Fredette

Actually the vacancy wouldn't show up here because it is a person that does all of the enterprise funds so that person is paid out of both landfill and waste water.

Chairman Deane

Is the Thursday night registration that is still ongoing?

David Fredette

Yes, twice a month.

Chairman Deane

Do we still have a decent turnout for that?

David Fredette

Some nights it is not that busy, but other nights it is.

Chairman Deane

How many people are stationed for the evening for that?

David Fredette

I keep three people on for that, and we do have lines, but people don't seem to mind it because it is of course very quiet in the building and relaxing.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. With regard to that, do you keep track of visits during your workday; how many customers you meet with or interact with during the day?

David Fredette

Yes. We have it by daily, monthly. We do about 85,000 transactions a year in motor vehicle.

Alderman Cookson

So on your Thursdays that you meet twice a month, you are actually able to distinguish how many people participate or you interact with after the 5:00 p.m.

David Fredette

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. I believe so yes.

Alderman Cookson

So in that two hours you have that number and you are able to let us know how many customers you interact with?

David Fredette

Yes.

Alderman Tabacsko

To follow up on Alderman Cookson's question, you are staffing those evening hours though without an increase, it is not like you are creating an increase in cost in the department or does that create additional time?

David Fredette

It is part of the overtime cost.

Alderman Tabacsko

We have been doing this now for how long?

David Fredette

At least 7 years.

Alderman Tabacsko

For the evening hours?

David Fredette

Yes. We started that a long time ago.

Alderman Tabacsko

And in your opinion it pays for itself or it is a ...

David Fredette

It is really more of a convenience for people. We have a lot of people in Nashua that work out of the city, in Massachusetts and it is hard for them to get here for 5:00 p.m. The first week and the last week of the month are our busiest weeks so that is why we are open that Thursday night. We were open tonight until 7:00 p.m. People really like it.

Alderman Tabacsko

Personally I think it is a good idea. I know my wife is one of those people that can't get to anything by 5:00 p.m. Thank you.

Alderman Vitale

Just a follow up on that. Because I do believe it is a benefit and it is something that we should offer, the evening hours, it can't be accommodated through the flex hours at all so you don't incur; so someone comes in late and you don't incur the overtime costs?

David Fredette

We try to do some of that, but it is a little difficult because if you have a few people missing in the morning, at 8:00 a.m. sometimes we have lines that are very very long and so if you have a few people missing that is just going to make everybody wait even longer. It is not that easy to do. We have actually tried that also. For the amount of money we bring in there I just think it is really a benefit that people really need in Nashua. If you live in a smaller town it is different.

Alderman Vitale

I agree. I like the evening hours. It is definitely a benefit.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. Are those hours negotiated through collective bargaining agreements, any of them? Do they have to abide between certain work hours?

David Fredette

I don't think so. I think if you change hours I think you need to notify a certain time ahead. I don't think the actual hours are spelled out, like 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. I don't think they are.

Mayor Lozeau

That is correct.

Alderman Cookson

Your personnel, how many are merit, how many are union?

David Fredette

My group, the ones I mentioned, tax, MVR, parking, and treasury, there are 3 merit including myself out of 20. Then of course there are a few merit in the other areas that I mentioned, but mostly...

Chairman Deane

UAW, clerical technical.

David Fredette

UAW yes.

Alderman Cookson

So on page 80, in your 11 line item, of the 22.23 persons that you have, full time equivalents, 3 of those are merit and the rest are ...

Chairman Deane

This includes the CFO's office.

David Fredette

Yes. That includes...

Mayor Lozeau

Other departments.

Chairman Deane

So this is what 5 or 6?

Mayor Lozeau

It is not a significant number. I think Mr. Griffin is trying to pull it out while we are talking.

David Fredette

There are three in my area. The accounting department has 2, the CFO has 2, payroll has 3.

Mayor Lozeau

I think that is all of them.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you.

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you. I don't think that cutting night hours would be a good way to save money. I just think it is hard enough for people to have to write a check out, but to have to take time off work to do it is insult to injury so if someone has to miss two hours of work that is two hours of pay they are missing as well. I think in the interest of customer service, it is a great idea to do it.

Chairman Deane

Are there any other questions in this area? Being none, we will go to page 56.

Debt Service (592)

Chairman Deane

This is revenues for 592 Debt Service. Do you want to explain this Mr. Fredette?

David Fredette

I think you are all aware that the City collects impacts fees, and that is a trust fund. We transfer money out of there each year to help with bond payments related to the schools. That is what that is.

Chairman Deane

Sometimes we waive school impact fees on certain developments right?

David Fredette

The ordinance allows you to waive for elderly and certain reasons.

Chairman Deane

Fifty five plus or whatever. Are there any questions on this?

Alderman Cookson

I was just curious if there was an updated figure for received as of year to date for FY11, a more current number than the \$113,000.

David Fredette

I don't know if I have it, but I can check. It is still \$113,000.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. Do you work with the school department to determine what the impact fee might be? How is that determined the forecasted number?

Mayor Lozeau

I guess there is a process that has been in place for quite some time. I can't tell you exactly how it works, but I believe that it probably comes through both the Community Development Office and the Assessing Office.

Chairman Deane

We can ask Mrs. Hersh that question a little later Alderman Cookson.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. We will do that.

Chairman Deane

Okay. Are there any other questions on this? If not, we will move to page 194, that is the appropriations section. Is Mr. Fredette going to be the presenter here?

Mayor Lozeau

Yes, with a little help from his friends if necessary.

Chairman Deane

Do you want to walk us through?

David Fredette

Actually I think the page you might want to look at is page 196. If you look at that last block it says new debt to be issued. That is how the budget is arrived at for this year. It shows you City Building Improvements, Broad Street Parkway, Enterprise Resource Planning and Capital Reserves, and those are the amounts that we plan to sell in FY12. Then on page 197, the last block too, shows you the school portion, which is for the HVAC update and some building renovations.

Chairman Deane

City Building Improvements, \$1.1 million.

David Fredette

Right.

Chairman Deane

Broad Street Parkway \$2.1 million, ERP System \$2.5 million, and the Capital Reserve is \$900,000, but that is not the total of the bonds that is just a portion of the bonds that are being sold. The ERP was...

David Fredette

That is the portion that is going to be sold in FY12 yes.

Chairman Deane

Okay so the ERP, the total of the bond...

David Fredette

Is \$7.4 million.

Chairman Deane

So this just reflects the portions...

David Fredette

Of this fiscal year.

Chairman Deane

What is going on in the market right now?

David Fredette

Last year for the bonds we sold we received 2.67%. They are up this year, not drastically, but they are up.

Mayor Lozeau

We are anticipating based on when they are sold, somewhere around 4.1%, but they could be lower. We wanted to plan conservatively not knowing what is really going to happen. We don't anticipate it would be higher than that though.

Chairman Deane

I keep hearing advertisements in Massachusetts where you can buy municipal bonds.

Mayor Lozeau

Really?

Chairman Deane

There used to be a \$5,000 level and certain people in the Commonwealth would go in and gobble them all up. Now they are \$1,000. It is down to \$1,000 because the rate is so off. Does anyone have any questions in this area?

Okay, we will go to page 199, which is the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund.

Capital Reserve Funds

Capital Equipment Reserve Fund (593)

Chairman Deane

Mayor do you want to present this?

Mayor Lozeau

Sure.

Chairman Deane

Thank you.

Mayor Lozeau

You are welcome. As you know, this past year we took a different approach to CERF and we did our ten year fleet assessment and we took all of the funds that were in operating budgets and we moved it into CERF. That is why you see such an increase in that number from the prior fiscal year at \$500,000. This \$1.375 million really represents an increase of about \$250,000 going in. The second item that is described there is one that I had talked to you a bit about, which is all of the work that we have done on city buildings and the work that we continue to do, it seems to me to make sense to set some money aside in a reserve account much the same as we do with our capital equipment to start putting aside funds for our city owned properties that we have responsibility to maintain. That account has to be established, but for now in the budget I have put aside the amount that I would like to begin the fund with. That is that \$150,000.

Chairman Deane

Your CERF increased by more than \$250,000 though right?

Mayor Lozeau

It increased by more than that only because of what we moved from the prior year. We moved over \$1.1 million from the operating budget.

Chairman Deane

Okay, but if you take the \$1.375 million and ...

Mayor Lozeau

Two seventy five.

Chairman Deane

Pardon me?

Mayor Lozeau

Two seventy five not two fifty.

Chairman Deane

I'm confused. You budgeted \$500,000 last year. We have \$1.375 million. What have we backed out in total out of everybody's; like the police we took the cars...

Mayor Lozeau

\$1.1 million.

Chairman Deane

So between police, fire....

Mayor Lozeau

Right. The CFO said to me that would be the total.

David Fredette

That includes the \$500,000.

Mayor Lozeau

That includes the \$500,000.

Chairman Deane

That includes the \$500,000. Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Lozeau

You are welcome.

Alderman Clemons

Hard to tell because it is just one lump sum of money that we are looking at, but is it safe to assume that the money that is budgeted in here, for example includes enough to continue on with the police department's full schedule...

Mayor Lozeau

Yes.

Alderman Clemons

...of replacement and that kind of thing, the fire department same thing?

Mayor Lozeau

Yes.

Alderman Clemons

Okay.

Mayor Lozeau

When I distributed the ten year fleet assessment and we met upstairs and reviewed it, each of you got a sheet that shows what the plans are and that is still in place and that is what we are working toward.

Alderman Clemons

Okay so there has been no, if you will, cuts to that or anything?

Mayor Lozeau

There have not.

Alderman Clemons

Okay.

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you. I might have missed it because I was listening to numbers instead of the ...I was reversed for a moment. Line 86005 under contingency general, we had \$300,000 approved and zero expended. Has that changed?

Chairman Deane

We are in 593 right below it, the capital reserve. Contingencies we are going to get to at a later date.

Alderman Sheehan

Okay. I'm just excited for them I guess. Think about that until that night.

Mayor Lozeau

Alright I will work on that.

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you.

Mayor Lozeau

I already know the answer; maybe I will give you a sneak preview before...

Chairman Deane

Does anyone have any other questions in CERF? Being none...

Mayor Lozeau

Excuse me Alderman Deane, were we going to do pensions this evening? That was one of the other ones that was moved, or did you plan for that next week?

Chairman Deane

Next week.

Mayor Lozeau

Okay.

Chairman Deane

Page 35. This is the Purchasing Department.

Financial Services

Purchasing (516)

Chairman Deane

The revenues start on page 35. Good evening. How are you?

Robert Gabriel, Purchasing Manager

Good evening.

Chairman Deane

You have quite a bit of miscellaneous revenue here, all of \$750.00.

Robert Gabriel

Yes and I'm happy to report as of today it is up 25%.

Chairman Deane

It is up 25%. I notice once again the Mayor has...did she make you keep that revenue number flat or she didn't want you to have an increase? Does anyone have any questions on Mr. Gabriel's sum of \$750.00? Thanks for bringing that forward though, we appreciate it. Mr. Gabriel's appropriations start on page 87. If you would like to walk us through it the floor is yours.

Robert Gabriel

I will give you a brief overview of the department under the 516 umbrella. It entails the city print shop and all of the activities there, the city messenger and the activities there, all of the postal dealings both internal and external, all bid activity, oversight of the cell phones, all requisitions and purchase orders, all of the advertising throughout the city, finance requests, and advice to all 40 city departments.

I have 4 employees; 3 union and myself who is merit.

Chairman Deane

Can you highlight your areas of reduction?

Robert Gabriel

The big change, there are some subtle changes, but the biggest change or the change of note is in the advertising. At the start of FY11, actually the end of FY10, we started to move what we refer to as pointer ad to shorten the ad and have the ad, regardless if it is personnel or legal or bid or public notice, use it as a pointer and say like in the case of personnel that a job is available and go to the City website. We can utilize, for free, the city website, the police website, and the school website. That along with reaching out to like the Telegraph, the Union Leader, and the Lowell Sun, which are the three customarily that we use, we made visits to each of those facilities and we now monitor their font size and their layout. We price in

column and we price display of all ads before we finalize the layout. We have had good success. We have had tremendous success really because we had \$77,000 in the budget I believe in FY10 and we reduced it some last year and we have reduced it again this year. Again, I think that especially in the help wanted, it is important to let people know the job is available, but the days of taking the entire column in the paper and giving all of the details of that it is really not warranted today. But having access to the three websites, we could put a book on the website really for free and just make sure that the public is aware that this is going on. Again, we have had good success.

Chairman Deane

I remember sometimes seeing the same ad in the Sunday paper three times.

Robert Gabriel

What they do...

Chairman Deane

I don't know whether they were filling in blank spaces...

Robert Gabriel

That is what they do. At the beginning they will run it to fill space, but then it will be in the appropriate area as well.

Chairman Deane

We can gauge the Telegraph's health of their circulation by seeing duplications.

Robert Gabriel

But you will notice like in the future on the legal ads and the public notices that we have limited the size of the logo now, moved it up to the left hand side and we are able to pick up 3 or more lines of text...

Chairman Deane

By reducing the size of our city seal?

Robert Gabriel

And shifting it to the left hand side of the advertisement.

Chairman Deane

We want to be very careful of our city seal. We want to keep it just the way it is. The requirements of your postings, what are they?

Robert Gabriel

Well I don't know all of the requirements. Some of them are funding based requirements like Public Works, as you are aware, when they have certain projects based on the funding; it comes with requirements for

advertising. Legal notices, again I don't know all of the details, legal notices have to be in at a certain time, so many hours in advance. Each type of ad has its own guidelines, and I am not intimate with all of the guidelines. I basically rely on the departments that are requesting the ads, but they all have to funnel through my department.

Chairman Deane

So if Mr. Bergeron, the City Clerk, has to put a filing in for a public hearing he will bring that to you and he is responsible for the timeline of when it is supposed to be in and how long it is supposed to run and...

Robert Gabriel

That is correct. When he makes the submission to our office he tells us when it has to run at the latest. If we can get it in earlier we will do that, but as you know like the Telegraph is now printed out of I believe Dover or Portsmouth so that has added some lead-time there. We ask the departments to work with us on that and we adjust the anticipated times that it will take us to get the ads in the publications as things change on the outside.

Chairman Deane

Okay. Does anyone have any questions of Mr. Gabriel?

Alderman Clemons

Just a general comment; I want to say that having spent almost 4 years now on the Finance Committee, it has been a pleasure to work with you Mr. Gabriel, and you do a very good job bringing everything forward and running the department. Just want to commend you on the work that you do.

Robert Gabriel

Thank you for your comments Alderman Clemons.

Chairman Deane

We all know you do a good job buddy.

Robert Gabriel

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Deane

Are there any questions of the purchasing department? Thank you very much.

Community Development

Community Development (571)

Mayor Lozeau

Mr. Chairman as they are gathering, I will let you know that...

Chairman Deane

I would like to just take a brief recess. I wanted to get a glass of water before we start. Everybody can come up. Is that okay Mayor?

Mayor Lozeau

Sure.

Chairman Deane

Okay, if people don't mind.

Mayor Lozeau

Mr. Chairman I just wanted to mention there are two managers from Community Development that were unable to join us tonight and Director Hersh will be presenting on their behalf. Both the building manager and code enforcement manager are out due to illness right now. I just wanted to let you know that before we got started.

Chairman Deane

I am sure the code enforcement area there are going to be a few questions. Just an uneducated guess, but I think that may happen. Thank you. This is Department 571, this is Director Hersh, and this department starts on page 170. Alderman Sheehan page 170, the building department manager as well as the code enforcement manager will not be here and Director Hersh is going to be presenting their operating budgets. Director Hersh the floor is all yours.

Katherine E. Hersh, Division Director, Community Development Division

Thank you. Good evening and thank you very much for having us here. When we review our budget we look at all of the departments together and make recommendations based on how we can best fulfill the responsibilities of the division within the budget directive. We don't look at it department by department but instead we look at the entire division together.

To meet our 3% reduction, we made three major changes in the Community Development Division. We reduced the electricity in the parking lots budget, which is 557, by \$20,000 and that is based on the actual expenditures in that line item. We reduced two building department positions from full time to part time, and that reduced our budget in the building department by \$40,000, and then we eliminated conferences and seminars in the Planning Department to save \$9,400. The remaining budgets are consistent with last years with minor changes to reflect annual spending.

Chairman Deane

If we can just go over that briefly, you reduced the electricity for the parking garage, and 557 the transit, has been under Community Development for how long?

Katherine E. Hersh

A year.

Chairman Deane

One year.

Katherine E. Hersh

Two years.

Chairman Deane

Two years. And the two building department positions went from full time to half time?

Katherine E. Hersh

Full time to part time.

Chairman Deane

And we can discuss that when we get to the building. The one other item?

Katherine E. Hersh

The one other item is that we eliminated conferences and seminars in the Planning Department.

Chairman Deane

Okay. So if we start on page 170, there are two full time positions and .20 of a part time position. Now these two full time positions are merit?

Katherine E. Hersh

No. My position is merit and the administrative assistant is a UAW position.

Chairman Deane

Was there a .5% increase added in here?

Katherine E. Hersh

The only changes in this budget are that part time clerk typist, which I talk about every year because I move that around a little bit every year, that is a position that has been in the division for at least five years, it is a position that is part time generally around 15 hours a week, and has been really invaluable in filling in in a lot of places. For example, this year when we lost our permit technician, this person was able to fill in in that position, which really made a difference. It is difficult to manage that counter with just one permit technician.

Usually this position costs me somewhere in the vicinity of \$12,000 or \$13,000 a year and normally what I do is depending on whether or not there are positions vacant such as that permit technician position, then I will pay for this position out of that and otherwise I keep money for this position in, right now it is in 571. But you will see a dollar in the other departments so that I can be flexible with this position.

Chairman Deane

So the Administrative Assistant II is a new hire?

Katherine E. Hersh

That Administrative Assistant II is a position that we have had had. I have had a person in there for about a year now.

Chairman Deane

Okay.

Katherine E. Hersh

A little less than a year.

Mayor Lozeau

Hired in at a lower rate than the one that had been in the position for a period of time.

Chairman Deane

So the person has been there okay. So that position went from \$35,000 to \$33,000.

Mayor Lozeau

Right.

Chairman Deane

And the merit increases are half a percent is that what it is?

Mayor Lozeau

Yes.

Chairman Deane

So that .5% is reflected in the Director's...okay.

Katherine E. Hersh

Not in this position because the Directive was that we...

Mayor Lozeau

As I mentioned Alderman Deane, all of the senior management that took a zero percent increase last year are in this budget book getting their normal step this year.

Chairman Deane

Every merit position?

Mayor Lozeau

No. The senior management team, the cabinet members that last year took zero. They didn't get their step last year; they are getting it this year.

Chairman Deane

I didn't remember you mentioning that, but thank you for letting me know. Mr. Griffin could you get me a list of those folks that took 0 last year and are getting a one step this year and what the total is?

John Griffin

I can get that list.

Chairman Deane

Thank you. Please continue Mrs. Hersh. Did anyone have any questions in this area on the top before she moves on? Thank you. Do you want to continue through the rest of it?

Katherine E. Hersh

The only other change that is really of any consequence is the photocopiers and that is because our lease is a five year lease on a photocopier, our lease was up, and in order to be able to get a photocopier of the same caliber it cost us a little bit more. That is in line 62.

Chairman Deane

Can you imagine if we could live without those things?

Mayor Lozeau

Imagine.

Chairman Deane

What a racket. What a racket, everybody has that. Are there any questions of Mrs. Hersh in this area? Being none, we will move on to Planning & Zoning.

Planning & Zoning (572)

Chairman Deane

Revenues start on page 52. Mr. Houston if you would like to come up. You are another department that has also reduced their revenues. Do you want to give us an overview of your revenue projections?

Roger Houston, Manager/Planning Director

Yes. Thank you. We reduced the revenue expectations based on the numbers we had in effect at the end of March. We have had a number of applications at the end of this year, which we collect the revenues this year, but our expenditures to process those plans or inspect those plans are in the following year. That seems to be a good number. We try to be conservative with those estimates. Our current revenue through today is, that we have accrued this year is \$173,596. The end of March it was \$131,690. There is a slight increase. Usually in the spring time we have a flurry of land use permits and additional applications, after the snow has melt.

Chairman Deane

So you have about 30 days to make up about \$9,500 right?

Roger Houston

That is the building department, yeah, \$9,300 something like that yes, correct.

Chairman Deane

Does anyone have any questions?

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. On 225, Home Occupations, what is the fee for a home occupation? How much does \$200 estimate as far as people applying for those?

Roger Houston

I'm trying to remember, I think they are roughly, a \$25 fee if I recall. I don't have my zoning code. I could get that number for you if you like.

Alderman Cookson

So that is between 8 and 12 applications for home occupations, is that correct?

Roger Houston

Approximately yes.

Alderman Cookson

And then on 234, the rezoning fee? What is that?

Roger Houston

That is the Zoning Board of Adjustment cases. That includes variance and special exception fees to go before the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Under the new land use code, a lot of special exceptions were transferred as conditional uses to the Planning Board as a streamlining process to reduce the number of steps that someone has to go through to get a permit, and so some of the conditional uses are now heard by the Planning Board. It is a one step process. In the process, the number of Zoning Board cases are

down approximately 25 per year. That has resulted in a net loss in revenue in that particular line item. That has also increased the Planning Board, if you look at the Planning Board, which is 223, that amount is up considerably.

Alderman Cookson

What about your inspection fees, 235? That is also down to zero and abutter notification – why don't we just look at those.

Roger Houston

Generally speaking, inspection fees are re-inspection fees. We have one inspection and we go out and look at them and that generally is enough. We don't charge inspection fees, that is built into the regular fee. That is only in situations where we are told to go out to the site, it is ready, and then we go out to the site and it is not ready and we have to go back again, where we try to collect a fee.

Alderman Cookson

So when you provided us an update for monies accrued and you gave us a figure, I believe it was in the \$170,000 range, did that figure include anything for rezoning fee, inspection fee, or abutter notification fee or were those monies assumed in other line items?

Roger Houston

They were assumed in other line items. Generally the rezoning fee we are lucky if we get one a year, maybe one every two or three years. Rezoning are not as frequent.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Are there any other questions on page 52? If not, we will go to page 172. The floor is yours Mr. Houston if you want to give us an overview of your operating budget showing a 2.1% reduction.

Roger Houston

I would be happy to.

Chairman Deane

Thank you.

Roger Houston

In addition to the approximately \$9,400 with the elimination of the education and seminars line item 94, we also reduced miscellaneous services by \$1,000. That is line item 59 on page 173, and on page 172, we reduced postage by about \$800. Again we are seeing some savings. We were able to work with accounting on some of the airport stuff to get the accounts reimbursed for abutter notifications on some of those types of projects with other departments as well as a lot of the conditional use permits now, since we

are seeing fewer Zoning Board of Adjustment cases, we aren't having as many notices that we are sending out and abutter notices so that has reduced that line item somewhat as well. We reduced that by \$800.

Chairman Deane

And your 11 line, which is your payroll, are those positions all filled/

Roger Houston

Yes they have been for some time.

Chairman Deane

Okay. Anyone have any questions of Mr. Houston and his operating budget? Seeing none, thank you.

Building (576)

Chairman Deane

We will move on to the building department. Their revenues start on page 53. Director Hersh is going to be presenting this in the absence of the building manager. This looks like another reflection of the current economic times we find ourselves in, the 6% reduction. Are there any questions on these revenues here? Being none, we will go to page 175, which is the building department operating budget. Director Hersh if you would like to give us an overview of this please. Thank you.

Katherine E. Hersh

The adjustments in the building department are two in payroll. The first is the reduction from two full time permit technicians to one permit technician full time and the second permit technician is about 25 hours a week. We were fortunate to find someone. We filled this position several months ago and were fortunate to find someone who has flexible hours and is able to cover. For example, the one permit technician can go on vacation for a week and the other one will fill in for that week. We were able to find somebody who has the ability to be that flexible, which was important to us, and actually has worked out very well for us.

The other position that we went to half time is the building inspector. That is really based on the effort to come in at the 3% below last year's.

Chairman Deane

So the building inspector, but aren't they all cross trained to an extent?

Katherine E. Hersh

They are.

Chairman Deane

Are all of the inspector positions filled?

Katherine E. Hersh

All of the inspector positions are filled yes.

Chairman Deane

So who is going to be the one being told they are now a half time employee?

Katherine E. Hersh

The inspectors, there is a building inspector, a plumbing inspector, there is an HVAC inspector, and an electrical inspector, and the building inspector is the person who has agreed to go part time.

Mayor Lozeau

He was actually interested in being able to do that.

Katherine E. Hersh

He was interested in considering that. I asked him if he was interested in considering that and he was interested in doing that.

Chairman Deane

Is he eligible for retirement? Is he eligible to collect out of the State pension plan?

Katherine E. Hersh

He would have to be vested. I don't think he has been here that long.

Mayor Lozeau

I don't think he has been here long enough, but we don't know what his former employment was.

Chairman Deane

What was that?

Mayor Lozeau

I wouldn't be able to tell you what his former employment was, if he worked somewhere where he gained some years, is how it works.

Chairman Deane

How many of the inspectors are vested enough to deal with doing structural inspections?

Katherine E. Hersh

We have a supervisor of inspectors and he can do structural inspections and Russ Marcum who is now the electrical inspector was the building inspector and so he can do structural inspections at a minimum. There may be others of the inspectors who have some certifications to do that. Sometimes they have certifications in residential and not commercial in that area and so it depends.

Chairman Deane

Most of the activity now is in the commercial area anyway right?

Katherine E. Hersh

A lot of it is in rehabilitation whether it is commercial or residential. It is in people adding on or people finishing their basements or things like that, and fit-ups as well as opposed to new construction.

Chairman Deane

Okay.

Alderman Clemons

Following along the lines of that, we saw in the revenues that there has been a drop in permits and things like that. Is there also a drop in the need for that person to be full time?

Katherine E. Hersh

I watch the level of inspections. The inspections have certainly dropped. They were about the highest in 2005 and then they started dropping. They have been level for about; this is the 4th year that they are level.

In fact they went up a few hundred this year from last year in our projections for June 30th. They have been pretty level. The other thing that we have done is we have worked with the code enforcement department to look at ways to team up code enforcement and the inspectors when it works and makes sense to be able to do some of those code enforcement...some of those code enforcement things are really just building things as well. Code enforcement will go out because there is an electrical issue at a residential property for example and that is something that an electrical inspector can go out and do, so we have been working on doing that. We have been doing that for a while actually.

Mayor Lozeau

It makes it feel like you have more code enforcement as well, which is important to all of us.

Katherine E. Hersh

Right.

Alderman Clemons

If I could continue.

Chairman Deane

Please.

Alderman Clemons

I understand that, but I guess my question was is the demand going down or are we doing this to fit a guideline that was directed by the Mayor?

Katherine E. Hersh

The number of inspections that were at peak in 2005 was more inspections than we had inspectors for. They were going out doing 15 inspections sometimes in a day and that is not an acceptable number. As we reduced our number of inspections we got into a good range of inspections. Do we have a little bit of flexibility now because of where we are with inspections, yes. If inspections go up next year not that much I'm going to be back to being concerned about the number of inspections. It is always a game of watching those numbers and making sure that I have the right amount of staffing, and making sure that I can use the staffing that I have and not have staffing not going out doing inspections if I have inspectors sitting there.

It has been something I have watched for a long time. I would have come in with this...I'm comfortable with making this cut is maybe you are asking. I am comfortable making this cut to a half a position. I would be very uncomfortable making this a full position cut.

Alderman Clemons

Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

But from 2005 to today, in 2005 how many people were doing the inspections were cross trained?

Katherine E. Hersh

They have all been pretty cross trained. They all can't do everything that every other one does. For example, you wouldn't send out the plumbing inspector to do the electrical inspection on a 30,000 sq. ft. commercial building, but an electrical inspector can go out and do the plumbing inspection on a residential property. There is some cross training. Every one of them is not to the depth of knowledge that the specific person responsible for that is, but they all take...

Chairman Deane

Have the ability to do rough inspections and sign off.

Katherine E. Hersh

Yes.

Mayor Lozeau

And they are more cross trained today than they were in 2005.

Chairman Deane

It just seems that way to me because I just remember the...

Katherine E. Hersh

We have always worked as hard as we can to be cross trained, it is always a goal. So yes I would say because we continuously improve so yes we are more cross trained.

Chairman Deane

Back in the days of my permitting it is like you would always have 2 or 3 different people show up. Now it is like you have the one fellow show up and he can do the rough, he can do the rough framing, he can do the rough electrical, he can do the rough plumbing. It is just more efficiency. I do understand what you are saying; if you have a large commercial electrical service coming into the building whereas the fellow could look at a 200 air panel and have confidence in taking a look at the work that was done or looking at some commercial work like that, it is all piped or whatever, he might...I can understand that because the depth of that knowledge probably isn't all there, but we have managed to get by with the folks. I think it is an efficient way to do it. When you are in this line of work and you want to move forward and you have to wait for this inspector and that inspector to get things done before you can go cover walls up and stuff I think it helps everyone out.

Are there any other questions in the building department?

Code Enforcement (577)

Chairman Deane

We will move on to page 177, Code Enforcement. They have no revenues. Director Hersh is going to be the presenter on this.

Katherine E. Hersh

The only change in the Code Enforcement Department is a reduction in the conferences and seminars by \$1,300.

Chairman Deane

By how much? It looks like \$600.

Mayor Lozeau

Six hundred on the conference and seminars and \$700 on the educational assistance.

Katherine E. Hersh

The total 94 account.

Chairman Deane

In the 11 line are these positions all filled?

Katherine E. Hersh

Yes.

Chairman Deane

Have been all year?

Katherine E. Hersh

Yes.

Chairman Deane

Beautiful.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. Are there 3 or 4 code enforcement officers?

Katherine E. Hersh

Currently there are 3 code enforcement officers including the manager. We had 4 code enforcement officers for the three years that we had the lead grant, and that 4th code enforcement officer was funded through the lead grant. That lead grant was completed at the end of October.

Alderman Clemons

And we haven't received any new money for that correct?

Katherine E. Hersh

We have not received any new money for the lead grant at this time.

Alderman Clemons

How has that impacted the department as far as losing that one officer?

Katherine E. Hersh

Certainly having one less code enforcement officer means there is that much less ability to react and respond to all of the requests. That was actually one of the reasons that we sat down with the building department to see how we could manage some of that and create some overlap in that time, which has been helpful.

Alderman Clemons

So you are comfortable with 3 officers?

Katherine E. Hersh

Yes.

Alderman Clemons

It just seems to me like it would be better off if there were more. At least get back to the level of having 4 code enforcement officers because it would seem to me that the demand for that type of service hasn't gone down especially in the economy that we are in. You would seem to see more of those types of calls or complaints. Is that true?

Katherine E. Hersh

We are applying again for the Lead Grant and if we are successful in getting that Lead Grant then we will be adding that 4th code enforcement officer again.

Alderman Clemons

Do you know when that may come about?

Katherine E. Hersh

The Lead Grant application is due June 10th, and we hope to know by August. They probably would start that funding in maybe October.

Alderman Clemons

Okay. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Are there any other questions in this area? Seeing none we will move on to Urban Programs.

**Urban Programs
(Supplemental Funding Sources)**

Chairman Deane

That starts on page 270. How are you this evening?

Carrie Johnson Schena, Manager, Urban Programs

I'm well Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Did you want to walk us through your operating budget?

Carrie Johnson Schena

Sure, I would be happy to.

Chairman Deane

Thank you.

Carrie Johnson Schena

We put the budget together, like everybody, facing some challenging figures to deal with. At the federal level the Community Development Block program received a 16.5% reduction across the nation, and the

HOME Program was reduced by about 12%. That was actually reflected when we put the annual plan together through the work of the Human Affairs Committee, which also elevated to the full board level just recently.

Under those programs, we have a percentage that we can take for administrative costs, which cover the salaries, fringe benefits, and other related costs such as filing fees, recording fees, travel, and things like that. The biggest change that we had this year was a reduction to one of our full time positions. That was reduced to half time. That is currently vacant. It had been vacant and the person retired. Hopefully there will be a point where we can look to fill that. Again, with the Lead Grant we hope there is an opportunity to partner some of those very similar skills as far as a project administrator goes, and use the other 20 hours out of the Lead Grant and have a full time position.

Chairman Deane

I take it you feel you have a need for the full time position.

Carrie Johnson Schena

The full time position would focus like I said half of the time on the CDBG and HOME Program and the other half would be Lead. There is a lot of opportunity when we do our projects to combine regular housing rehab, which is a good majority of what that position oversees, with Lead hazard control and other health homes remediations. What we would like to envision is somebody who could take all of those issues and work it into a comprehensive healthy homes/housing rehab job and using both of those skill sets.

Chairman Deane

Is there anybody in the department that is out on long-term disability?

Carrie Johnson Schena

That was the position that retired.

Chairman Deane

That position retired. Okay. Are there any questions?

Alderman Clemons

Have we heard back from HUD on the final number yet?

Carrie Johnson Schena

HUD announced the final formula allocations last week and we were pretty much right on target. CDBG as a whole was \$25 less than what we factored.

Alderman Clemons

That is pretty good.

Chairman Deane

Twenty five dollars?

Carrie Johnson Schena

Twenty five dollars.

Chairman Deane

That is great.

Carrie Johnson Schena

The HOME Program we actually under-estimated a little bit, and we are receiving just over \$4,000 more, which will go into the rental housing line item.

Alderman Clemons

Great.

Mayor Lozeau

Nicely done.

Chairman Deane

So is the committee going to meet again to haggle over that \$25? Something like that could usually go on for 3 or 4 hours.

Mayor Lozeau

We were hopeful you would let the director handle that.

Chairman Deane

Does anyone have any questions?

Alderman Wilshire

No question, just want to thank Carrie and her team for doing such a great job with this grant.

Carrie Johnson Schena

Thank you Alderman Wilshire.

Chairman Deane

You are dismissed. Have a nice evening.

Carrie Johnson Schena

Thank you.

Transportation (Parking (557) & Transit)

Chairman Deane

Moving on, Transportation (Parking 557 and Transit the revenues are on page 51. Mr. Sousa is here representing the transit I would imagine. Page 51 is the parking lot revenues. Good evening Mr. Sousa. How are you?

Mark Sousa, Manager, Transportation Department

Good evening. Very well thank you.

Chairman Deane

I take it we are going to hear the same line that your projections and you have gone back three years and seen what was budgeted and what our actuals are to date and you decided to have these remain flat.

Mark Sousa, Manager

Okay. That will work.

Chairman Deane

It seems like everybody has, that is basically what is going on.

Mark Sousa, Manager

Actually one of the reasons this was kind of flat was we are working on kind of a phasing approach for the next fiscal year. As you know the construction of the garages is going on and that will be finished hopefully by the beginning of the fall. We are hoping to do some other possible renovations in the garages so the thought in my department was that we would start marketing the garages a little bit more to the public because a lot of the complaints we receive the reason they don't rent in there is because the roofs are leaking, what is the sense of doing that, I could just park and get a surface lot permit. So the idea is that once they are sealed and the construction is done then we can go out and start marketing that a little bit more. Plus the fact that we are working on that other legislation with Economic Development and looking at parking as a whole downtown. The thought was to try to keep it level funded to see if we could gain some of the revenues back that we have lost with some of the permits being cancelled.

Chairman Deane

So what you are saying is you are looking for a return on investment with a little marketing and you think they are all going to be coming back because the issues that people continually complained about will pretty much be addressed. What are we losing for revenue now with some of the parking garages closed? Are there certain sections of it that are closed? I know when they are in there doing the work they must have to close some areas, they don't want to damage vehicles and...

Mark Sousa, Manager

Correct. We are not losing any revenue because we are moving the people around. We are only taking up 100 spaces at a time so if they are working on the second level they have to shut down the first level so that is the 100, so it is 50 and 50 so you are not losing really any spaces.

Chairman Deane

So the vacancies that we have we can move the vehicles to. Okay. Does anyone have any questions on the revenues side of this?

Alderman Clemons

So do you project that by the end of this fiscal year we will hit the \$728,000 mark or pretty close to it?

Mark Sousa, Manager

I don't know if we will get there the end of this fiscal year. We had a lot of cancellations. Indian Head building was a real big contributor to the lease permits over there at the High Street garage, and they cancelled all of their permits so they have no more. I want to say that garage alone that is 60 permits.

Mayor Lozeau

It was about \$55,000 altogether with what they were doing.

Alderman Clemons

Okay.

Chairman Deane

What?

Mayor Lozeau

It was about \$55,000 between the surface lot they had and their spaces in the garage.

Alderman Clemons

Where do you think we will end up, just ballpark?

Mark Sousa, Manager

Maybe around 85-90% maybe.

Alderman Clemons

This kind of goes to a question Alderman Cookson had asked earlier, the revenues that you have forecast for FY12 do not include any anticipated changes to the parking meter fees?

Mark Sousa, Manager

That is correct. This was done prior to ...

Alderman Clemons

Alright. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Are there any other questions?

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you. I know that it had come up in conversation before that Indian Head may have gotten use of their building the way that they wanted to based on the fact that they leased additional parking. Has anybody researched that where now they are dropping that parking?

Mayor Lozeau

Their building is at almost an 80% vacancy. We believe it had something to do with their let's just call it style of management. Right now, myself and the Economic Development Director have been meeting with the potential new owner of the building, and we have had discussions about what their needs might be and how we can work together.

Alderman Sheehan

Super. Glad to hear that.

Chairman Deane

When the Planning Board gave the site plan approval for the building, what were the parking requirements? We know everyone and their brother uses every ...they go on to the streets for the parking, but there must have been some requirements for the total number of spaces required to occupy.

Mayor Lozeau

They actually met their spaces to occupy based on what they have including what they purchased behind Court Street and what they had behind their building.

Chairman Deane

So that met their requirements?

Mayor Lozeau

That met their requirements, but when that building is full it probably doesn't meet their needs.

Chairman Deane

We're not putting the health department in that building are we?

Mayor Lozeau

No we are not.

Chairman Deane

Just didn't know who the new owner was. Any other questions in revenues? Page 167 is the parking lots, department 557.

Mark Sousa, Manager

There are no drastic changes in this budget other than the electricity that you heard earlier, the \$20,000 that came out of the electricity line item. Other than that there were some minor changes, more realistic numbers to what we spent so we went back and kind of tightened up some of the line items that we realized that maybe were a little bit too much in there that the actual numbers will come in.

Chairman Deane

Okay so the last problem we had was half the lights weren't working so then the electric bill was too high, now all of the lights are working, and we have locked in with Constellation New Energy and you're looking at with the new energy efficient fixtures we are going to have a reduction of \$20,000? That is throughout all of the garages?

Mark Sousa, Manager

The two garages. The reason for the change...if I look at our budget line item and the actuals this year, the bills started coming in less so we started checking into it and finding out did they forget us, so you don't want to bring it to their attention, but you have to bring it to their attention so we asked them what the change was and they made some generic comments about rates being different. It just didn't sit with me, didn't really seem that was the case so after a little bit more research on our part, what we found out was SmartStart, which was about 4 years ago, they contracted with PSNH to fix all of lights and what you had mentioned Alderman Deane, they had fixed all of the lights in both garages and we had to pay that back over a three year period. Well that period ended. So the reason our rate went down was because we were done paying off the SmartStart Program.

Chairman Deane

There is a fixture cost in all of that right.

Mark Sousa, Manager

Right. I felt a lot more comfortable after having had that discussion with them, which they couldn't find on their documents, which we had to find. That is why it took us a while. Now I feel a lot more comfortable looking at this line item and saying \$20,000 really shouldn't affect us because we are not paying off that grant anymore.

Alderman Tabacsko

That was exactly where I was going, and that explained it perfectly. Thank you.

Alderman Clemons

Is this department funded with the revenue from the parking meters or is it just kind of ...

Katherine E. Hersh

It is general fund.

Alderman Clemons

And the parking meter revenue goes into the general fund, is that true as well?

Katherine E. Hersh

Correct.

Alderman Clemons

My other question is theoretically could all of this be used with parking meter revenue? In other words could we pay an electricity bill with revenue that we generate with parking money for the parking garage?

Mayor Lozeau

Alderman Clemons in answer to your question, the way the State law is written, which we have talked about a number of times in here, we could use our income from parking for the operations of parking.

Alderman Clemons

Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Lozeau

You are welcome.

Chairman Deane

If we set the special revenue fund up and we funded solely out of that and our parking revenue funds exceeded our operational costs then the money would just sit in that fund and it couldn't be used for any other purpose right? If that is how we did it similar to...

Mayor Lozeau

If it was done that way correct.

Chairman Deane

If we did that and say we had an abundance of revenue from that we couldn't utilize it for anything else.

Alderman Clemons

I understand that. That wasn't where I was going.

Chairman Deane

Well it sounded like it because you are talking about the revenue and does it cover the costs.

Mayor Lozeau

Mr. Chairman if I could just add, there is also, you should be aware as we are talking about this and what the State law requires and what our flexibility is, there is also some discussion taking place right now to really understand whether that State restriction applies to some of our surface lots without meters and our garages that are leased. We're trying to make the determination with Legal right now on whether we think there is a distinction between the two; parking meter revenue versus our other parking revenue. That will play into some of your discussions and decisions.

Alderman Clemons

Sure.

Chairman Deane

Any other questions on parking lots?

(Supplemental Funding Source)

Chairman Deane

The supplemental funding sources for the transit and transportation starts on page 269 in the blue pages.

Mark Sousa, Manager

As most of you know this is a formula based grant. All of the numbers are always projected. There are a couple of reasons for that. One main reason is it goes by ticket sales, it goes by patching accounts...there is a lot of different formula and a lot of different factors that make this budget work. The other part of it is our fourth quarter is the Federal Government's third quarter. Some of the numbers do change in the first three months of our grant because of that. Those are the two reasons. The budget we put together in the transit budget is basically actuals. We have used several years of data to come up with this and where we think we will be. There are no real changes other than contractual issues that we have with our contracted drivers and things of that nature. Other than that, we are pushing our revenues a little bit more with our advertising because now we have some other opportunities out there.

All of that, once that revenue comes in is the money we can actually get from the Federal Transit Administration as a match. The more revenue we have come in for grants and things like that the more money we can draw down from FTA. That is why this is a formula based grant.

Chairman Deane

Fares are going up.

Mark Sousa, Manager

They are.

Chairman Deane

Why?

Mark Sousa, Manager

What whatever purposes, fuel alone, if you think of any petroleum products that we use, it is not just fuel, it is tires, oils, anything, and everything now it seems has a delivery service charge. Every vendor we use now charges us an extra \$5 or \$10 every single time that they deliver a part. A lot of those costs have gone up. We really haven't done any fare increases in 25 years, and we are way behind.

Chairman Deane

I had a fellow ask me that. He rides your bus all the time. He wanted to know why the bus stop on Amherst Street didn't have a bus stop on it anymore.

Mark Sousa, Manager

Shelter.

Chairman Deane

You put the little kiosk house out there and now the bus doesn't stop there anymore/

Mark Sousa, Manager

It does, but it comes in a different route. Not the same routes. The routes changed.

Chairman Deane

Thank you.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. What is the fare increase going to?

Mark Sousa, Manager

From \$1.00 to \$1.25.

Alderman Clemons

My other question is the new trolleys that we have; those are saving us a lot of money right?

Mark Sousa, Manager

They are.

Alderman Clemons

I can't imagine this, but there is probably always going to be a mix of the larger with the smaller right in the future just because of how many riders we have and that kind of thing?

Mark Sousa, Manager

Correct. Our southern route and northern route, #2 and #5, Amherst Street and D.W. Highway/Pheasant Lane Mall, those we have to run our big buses on. At certain times of the day there are 50+ people and trolleys wouldn't work.

Alderman Clemons

Understood. As we go into replacement and things like that, is there an opportunity for us to use CNG?

Mark Sousa, Manager

There are two major industries that use CNG. One is the garbage trucks and the second is transit, and transit probably more than garbage. Timing was just an issue with us, but absolutely. In fact, we are looking at getting two now, and then when the replacements come in they will be CNG replacements.

Alderman Clemons

Okay. Do we have the opportunity to do that on both the larger and the trolleys as well?

Mark Sousa, Manager

We actually looked into that before we even bought the trolleys and there is really no way to do the trolleys with the retrofits or anything.

Alderman Clemons

Okay. Thank you.

Alderman Sheehan

At the NRPC meetings, they talk quite a bit about the change in our census and what that might have as an impact on your department. Has anything come of that?

Mark Sousa, Manager

Nothing yet. In fact, we have been working with the Mayor's Office, the NRPC, and our delegation hopefully this summer when they get their break we will meet with all of them, but there is nothing out of Washington that has changed yet. The census has not come out. We don't anticipate it coming out until the spring of next year. We look at the preliminary numbers and you can actually look at them and they actually look like we are less. It is kind of confusing. Until the actual numbers come out, you can't trust that data until it is the actuals.

Alderman Sheehan

Okay. So we should be okay for this year with the information that we have so far?

Mark Sousa, Manager

Yes.

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you.

Chairman Deane

When we bought those trolley cars did they come with heat?

Mark Sousa, Manager

They do. Heat and air conditioning...

Chairman Deane

When Nashua bought theirs was there a heating system installed in it?

Mark Sousa, Manager

There was.

Chairman Deane

Because we see them seasonal elsewhere. I didn't know there was heat. Is there air conditioning in them as well?

Mark Sousa, Manager

There is, and there is also plastic rollup windows and then the hard windows for the winter. We use them 12 months, and they do save money. Their fuel costs alone are considerable.

Alderman Sheehan

I like it. They are less noisy in front of my house.

Alderman Clemons

They are less expensive to purchase as well aren't they?

Mark Sousa, Manager

Yes.

Chairman Deane

Well it is a smaller vehicle right? Are there any other questions in the transit?

Public Safety

Fire Rescue (532)

Chairman Deane

Did everyone get one of these from the Nashua Fire Department? This is department 532, and as I have done with the Police Department, normally what we have done in the past is we have always had a forward by the Chief. If you have anything to offer before we get started Chief?

Brian Morrissey, Fire Chief

Certainly. Good evening. Thank you Mr. Chairman. I want to thank the Budget Committee for the opportunity to present and explain the FY12 Fire Rescue budget. The Board of Fire Commissioners along with the fire administration and staff have worked hard in the last few months to come up with a reasonable budget for the next year. Our budget is designed to provide adequate emergency services and reasonable support services for any public safety need.

The Board of Fire Commissioners hopes that the Budget Review Committee will seriously consider this budget as proposed and/or use good and fair judgment if adjustments are contemplated.

Overall you will find that the Fire Rescue budget has been adjusted down by about 2.5%, and the majority of that reduction falls in the personnel related areas. We only reduced in the operating side from the 31s down to the end of the budget; we only reduced \$8,000 out of the operating portion of the budget. The top end of the budget, personnel, which is the largest portion of our budget, is where you will see the most significant reduction.

Chairman Deane

Okay. Page 41 is the revenue portion, and you are showing this is a 16.6% increase. Would you like to speak to that?

Brian Morrissey

We didn't go with the Mayor's recommendation of staying flat. We have actually tracked our revenues over the past several years. We have found that we were running a little bit under estimate so we just moved those into the area where we actually anticipate the revenues will be. They are running very consistent with this year.

Chairman Deane

Anyone have any questions on the Chief's revenue? The Knox box, do you charge for that? I know it is not in here, but I'm trying to think back, we had one of the budgets that had a significant fee...

Brian Morrissey

There is a cost to purchase a Knox box, but there is no maintenance cost or anything. So there is an initial cost and that is by the property owner if they choose to use it.

Chairman Deane

Those things are expensive.

Brian Morrissey

Several hundred dollars.

Chairman Deane

For a little metal box.

Brian Morrissey

They are very effective though.

Chairman Deane

I would rather see somebody take a key out of there than take an ax to the floor.

Brian Morrissey

So long as they appropriately change keys they work very well.

Chairman Deane

Yes. Are there any questions in the revenue? Being none, their operating budget starts on page 110 in the white pages.

Your earlier comments Chief pertaining to the reductions in your 11 lines I guess, 11, 12, and 13; in the handout, I haven't had time to go through yet, but we have in your payroll line, if we go into pay estimate, can we work out of that and if you could walk us through those. You show your 11, 12, or 13 lines in here.

Brian Morrissey

Certainly. Basically I can give you an overview of how we got to those numbers.

Chairman Deane

Is everybody on the same page and want to see how the Chief got...please continue Chief.

Brian Morrissey

The method that we used to come to that reduction is first of all there is a real attrition savings in this year's budget. The real attrition savings comes from we have had a number of members who have retired so when you backfill those positions going from the higher end rate of pay to the lower end of pay you are going to see some savings netted out through attrition.

Chairman Deane

So you are looking at about \$318,500 is what your...

Brian Morrissey

That is the total overall reduction. That is not all exactly through that sort of attrition. There is another

method that we are going to have some attrition is because there is a process that we are going to need to put in place to fill some of our higher level or our support services positions. The Superintendent of Fire Alarm for example retired effective May 31st. It will take us approximately 60-90 days to test and fill that position so that will bring us into probably the early part of September before we are able to fill the position so there will be a net amount of savings over the two months on the salary piece that reflects also down into holidays, that will also chase down into longevity. There are a number of areas of the budget that will be impacted by positions being left vacant.

Chairman Deane

So this figure here was as of the end of March.

Brian Morrissey

Correct. We have adjusted this several times since the early part of March.

Chairman Deane

Where would we find the updated attrition number in the document dated 17 May? Would that be in here?

Brian Morrissey

Yes. I will run you through the handout that I presented to you as we go down a little bit further. On the top line in the payroll lines you are going to see some savings. What we are also doing at this point in time is, although we are not going to adjust the authorized strength in any of our divisions, we are looking at only filling one position in the training safety division at least initially because we are going to re-evaluate how we are going to use the training safety division. That is going to have some significant impact on the method of service that we deliver, but we are evaluating that internally to see the best rollout of that.

When you get into overtime, we have reduced the 12 series number. The reduction for that we can attribute mostly to again members who have retired that had accumulated a number of weeks of vacation. As you backfill those positions with newer employees they are going to have less vacation and that will mean that there will be less weeks that we are going to have to fill those positions. We will net out some savings there.

As you get into the 13s, most of the reduction is going to come out of the 13050 line. It was funded last year at \$487,000, we are proposing that at \$466,000, and again that savings will be because we are going to have a number of less weeks of vacation that we are going to have to cover so there will be some savings in that line.

Now you get down into holidays again, because we are going to have some positions open at least during the first quarter of the year it will save some money in holidays. There is going to be less payroll cost as you bring people in at lower rates of pay. Because of the collective bargaining agreement, new people will be paid less. We will save some money. That is where we anticipate savings in the holiday area.

Longevity, longevity is a number that bounces around somewhat in the fire department. It sunsets out of the labor agreement. The people had to be on staff prior to 2005 I believe to even get longevity. As the senior people go out there is a reduction in the amount of money that we are going to pay towards longevity.

Our certifications, which are our additional certification lines for the hazardous materials team, those top two lines; HAZMAT and DECON apply to that. The Dive Team there is a cost associated with that and EMS there is a cost associated with that. You won't see a huge reduction there because our staff will be trained to these levels, so that will pretty much stay pretty consistent as we move forward.

Chairman Deane

Your EMT stipends are going up?

Brian Morrissey

I believe what you see is it was somewhat under-estimated for this year.

Chairman Deane

I'm looking at a \$73,740 from March and you are at \$103,194 budget. What have we expended to date?

Brian Morrissey

I probably can give you pretty close to that. We are at the 88% mark in the budget we were a little better than 84% spent. It tracks pretty close to where it should be. What happens is we have some people in the bargaining unit who will migrate on the pay scale so that is a one half of their hourly rate per week. It is about \$13 a week. Some people may go up from \$11 to \$13 so there is some impact on that.

That is the payroll piece. Again, that comes out to about \$357,000 down. Then as you go into what I call the operating side of the budget, the nuts and bolts side, from telecommunications all the way down to technical services, we only reduced a little over \$8,000 out of that entire \$800,000 area. You will find if you take a look at the current burn sheet, if you take a look at where we are, we're pretty much spent down. In the areas where we saw that we had room to either make an adjustment or actually take some money out we did that. That is where we came down to that \$8,000 number. There is some movement. In some areas we saw that we were spending more than we had anticipated. Water for example we had budgeted \$20,000, we are already over the \$20,000 mark and we are looking at about a 14% increase I believe. If you take \$21,000 and we blow that up to 14% we will be closer to the \$24,000 mark next year.

Professional Services is another area where we find over the past several years we have spent more money in professional services so we have adjusted that number.

Chairman Deane

You have a maintenance photocopier too ha?

Brian Morrissey

Yes sir.

Chairman Deane

I know when I was looking through your book I would see a dollar figure and then an increase in there. He increases his water by \$24,000, what went wrong, then I cross referenced it into the book...

Brian Morrissey

It went up by \$4,000.

Chairman Deane

Yeah, it went up by \$4,000. Everything else is pretty flat. Your 74 line?

Brian Morrissey

That is communications related to our fire alarm division. We have moved some money out of that area and will go into other areas in the FY12 budget. During FY11 we did significant upgrades on a bunch of electronics equipment in the fire alarm division and that money, that project so to speak, is now spent and we will move that into a different area now and start concentrating on something different as we move into FY12.

Chairman Deane

So your maintenance fire apparatus, your maintenance computer equipment, your audio/visual equipment and granted those are just generic names for the accounts, but what did you spend the money on? What project was complete?

Brian Morrissey

In this year's budget?

Chairman Deane

Yes.

Brian Morrissey

We have moved fiber optic into all of the fire stations now. We have status boards. A number of years ago we were using what they called tear sheets or rip sheets when the fire trucks left the building. What we have gone to now in all of our buildings are status board monitors so we are getting rid of some paper and it all integrates into the IMC dispatch program so what you see in the fire house transfers now into the same laptops that you are going to see in the fire trucks so we are going to have consistent communication from the time we receive alarms in the fire stations until we get onto the fire trucks until we get on scene, so it keeps consistent communication across the board.

Chief Anderson worked on that over the past about year and a half, and just to mention in case anybody isn't aware, Chief Anderson here tonight is as a retiree. His last day as the Assistant Fire Chief was last Friday.

Mayor Lozeau

That explains the outfit.

Brian Morrissey

Over about the past 7 months he has spent a lot of time putting this whole thing together with me, and I

thought if there were questions that I didn't have all of the answers to he could whisper them in my ear at least. I appreciate his effort in coming here tonight.

Chairman Deane

Yes. We all do. Congratulations.

Keith Anderson, Assistant Fire Chief.

Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Does anyone have any questions?

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. I think it was last week we had Mr. Marino, our Chief Assessor, in here talking about the GIS application and making sure that we had flyovers done on a timely basis. It was being utilized by our police department as they would roll and approach a resident or a property they would know the physical structure/layout. I'm curious; do you use that same feature in your fire trucks?

Brian Morrissey

Yes.

Alderman Cookson

And how do you use it and how helpful is it to you?

Brian Morrissey

We use it pretty much in a couple of different ways; we use it when we are doing pre-incident planning so we can sit in a classroom and throw different neighborhoods, buildings, areas up on a board. We can look at logistics how we can get in and out of those areas, best methods of approach. We use it basically as a planning and a logistics tools. The Fire Marshall's Office uses it quite a bit when they are looking at site plan and when they people come in looking to add or change the aspects of their buildings. It is used in that manner. Probably the biggest impact that it can have is when you actually have an incident and it is about any time from 9:00 p.m. to about 5:30 a.m. when you are under the complete cover of darkness, we can actually bring up properties under the bright light of day, you can see a lot of times areas surrounding it, you know what is behind it, what is next to it, you can measure off distances. We have to use it for evacuation zones. You can use the measuring tools. Now that we have gone away from our so called mobile data terminals to actual laptops we can actually upload that. A lot of it is in transmission. Mr. Marino will come over and actually upload those for us. It is actually a tool that we use fairly regularly.

Alderman Cookson

And you use it in route when you respond?

Brian Morrissey

Mostly it would be used by the incident commanders after you have set up or as an incident escalates. Generally in route, our response times as you know generally are less than 4 minutes. A lot of times while you are doing other things we are not uploading those, but as companies come in from further away or an incident escalates we can certainly use it in those applications.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you very much for that response.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. Reading the cover sheet and also some of the comments that you have made this evening, you mention in here that, and I'm just going to read it: "I have cautioned the Fire Commission and the Mayor that the 2.5% budget reduction may cause us to modify the level of protection provided during periods of peak absences." Can you explain that a little bit further and what that means exactly?

Brian Morrissey

Certainly. We had proposed a budget that was somewhat higher than the budget that we ultimately agreed to. As we look at burn rates, as we get into the nuts and bolts of the budget, depending on what our absentee rates are, there could be times...generally the cost, I guess the easiest way to explain it is generally the cost to keep a fire truck on the road for 24 hours is a little north of \$100 an hour so it is about \$2,500 or \$2,600 a day to keep a fire truck on the road. As we get deeper into the budget if these numbers don't support keeping that truck on the road for a full day, we may look at modifying, or running all 9 fire companies every single day. That certainly will have an impact as we roll out. Again, we have had some retirements that we didn't anticipate during the early part of April potentially, but still that does hang over our head. As I say it is about \$2,600 a day to keep that truck on the road at straight time. That is a straight time cost. If we say we had to come up with \$75,000 you would divide that number potentially by \$2,600 and you would come up with a number of days where you would have to park a vehicle.

Alderman Clemons

Would that mean the potential closing of a station?

Brian Morrissey

It could mean closing a fire station. It more likely would mean we would take out of the fire houses that operate more than one fire company; we would probably put a fire company out of service for either a portion of or the entire shift.

Alderman Clemons

What would that do to response time to a fire or to any other emergency? I think you just said your typical response time is 4 minutes, 5 minutes.

Brian Morrissey

Target response times are under 4 minutes.

Alderman Clemons

What would that scenario do to that response time?

Brian Morrissey

It would increase the response times and in different areas of the city, as you know as we get further out onto Amherst Street, we get to the back side of Manchester Street, the high end of Broad Street, the lower end of Broad Street, in those neighborhoods, our response times those run on the margins already. If you live right next door to the fire station on Lake Street that is going to factor into a very short response time. If you live on the far end of Main Dunstable Road that is going to be a longer response time, but when we put them altogether we are well in that 4 minute range.

What happens is any time you extract a fire truck out of our triangulation of fire companies you are going to run the risk of increasing response times. In some cases, it could significantly increase the response times.

Alderman Clemons

What you are saying is that this budget is running the potential of having to possibly sacrifice response times in order to get that 2.5% reduction potentially.

Brian Morrissey

It is going to be much closer than we have been in the past.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you.

Chairman Deane

It is going to be much closer than it has been in the past?

Brian Morrissey

Over the past several budget years, at the end of the year before you do charge backs and all of that, we have run very close to having one week of payroll, which is about \$190,000 as a balance, so you may not run that in the next year, and again it depends...a couple of people get injured or something like that and it certainly changes the numbers.

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you. In following up to Alderman Clemons, would that have any impact on any sort of certification or more importantly fire insurance rates that homeowners and property owners have to pay?

Brian Morrissey

It could impact the ISO rates. The insurance services and that is how they charge. It would probably have a higher impact on commercial properties than residentials, but it could have that impact.

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you.

Alderman Tabacsko

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to mention that I happen to be at the Commission meeting when this was discussed last couple of weeks ago, and the Commissioners and the chief officers expressed the same concerns. The numbers have adjusted a little bit here and that makes that a little bit more palatable, but it is still a hold your nose and move forward because of the times that we are in.

I want to thank the Commissioners and the chief officers for coming up with a budget that appears to be workable. There is some risk to it, but it seems to be minimized at least in my opinion at the way it is being approached and the always professional manner in which the department is run. I am sure that sort of response time increase will be kept to an absolute minimum, but I think it is a sign of the economic times that we are in and it is something that is a reality that has to be dealt with. Thank you.

Alderman Cookson

Thank you. I had a general operations question about the fire houses. I'm familiar with #6 and I believe that you just have an engine over at #6 is that right?

Brian Morrissey

Conant Road?

Alderman Cookson

On Pine Hill.

Brian Morrissey

Oh Engine #5 yes.

Alderman Cookson

I'm sorry #5. Thank you. Then you've got on Amherst Street an engine and a ladder.

Brian Morrissey

Correct.

Alderman Cookson

When there is a call in and it goes to an engine or station #1 is responding, do both the engine and the ladder respond or is it scenario based; is it one or the other or do both respond?

Brian Morrissey

It is all scenario based. If we get a call for certain types of rescue we utilize the ladder truck. We equip the ladder trucks differently than we equip the engines. Generally small fires, outside fires, brush fires, those

types of things we will send a single engine to. Motor vehicle fires, dumpster fires, fires that are going to be a little bigger in nature we will potentially send an engine and a ladder truck. If you get a call for a building fire for a house fire, generally we are going to send three engines and two ladder trucks. Our responses are all geared on the type of incident that we are responding to.

Alderman Cookson

So in the situation where you don't need to send both vehicles, can a group that is trained on the engine also be dispatched in the ladder?

Brian Morrissey

All of our members are cross trained. There is no individualized staffing.

Alderman Cookson

So if there were such a situation where there would have to be the reduction of, and how did you describe it again...

Brian Morrissey

If we needed to put a company out for a period of time we would make that based on what we anticipate for call volume. We have already looked at it, but we would make that call potentially based on what we anticipate to be the call volume.

Alderman Cookson

Is one of the factors that you would consider whether it is a station that has a single vehicle versus two vehicles? Is that also one of the things that you would consider?

Brian Morrissey

Absolutely.

Alderman Cookson

So there would be no point in time where you would ever consider reducing a company at 5?

Brian Morrissey

That would be probably unlikely.

Alderman Cookson

Alright. Thank you.

Alderman Clemons

Just a general comment that I'm going to make. This budget concerns me a great deal particularly the fire budget, and the reason that I feel that way is that I believe in my heart that the general function of government is to provide public safety. United States Government, it is our military, our local government it

is police and fire. There is an expectation out there from the public that when they call 911 the fire department is going to come and get there as fast as possible. I do not think that this budget is going to stop that from happening, but what I do think is that we run the risk of making that time be longer.

I have every confidence that the Chief and the Fire Commission are going to manage the budget appropriately. I think every dollar that is allocated to them is going to be spent appropriately as well. But, my concern is that passing this budget with the 2.5% cut is going to increase the response time, increase homeowners' insurance to folks in the City, and depending on the number of incidents that we have, we could be right on the cusp of that happening.

In my view, you pay for what you get, and I think that in the case of the fire department it is worth it to pay a little bit more money and get the excellent service that we have received in the last number of years, really traditionally that Nashua has always received from its fire department rather than cut it to meet a budget objective and then risk the safety of our citizens. That is not something that I am going to be supporting and I will be making a motion when the time comes to add money back into the budget as I feel that is the appropriate thing to do. If that does not pass I can't support the budget.

Chairman Deane

Thank you. Chief let's talk attrition for a minute. Let me ask you this; how much money has been transferred out of these 11, 12, or 13 accounts this year?

Brian Morrissey

11s, 12s, and 13s, I don't believe we have transferred any Alderman Deane.

Chairman Deane

What about your 15 account?

Brian Morrissey

Out?

Chairman Deane

Yes. You go through all of your longevity, your holiday, all of that...

Brian Morrissey

One hundred dollars came out of the holiday line this year. It went from the holidays to longevity because we had anticipated a retirement that didn't take place until later in the year so we had to move \$100 to cover that.

Chairman Deane

If we looked at attrition for last year, which we didn't do, you had retirements last year and you had to re-hire. You replaced, you filled the positions as you had explained earlier at a lower rate. Do you have any idea of what that was by any chance?

Brian Morrissey

In FYs 09 and 10 I believe we only retired about 3 individuals. We have had significantly more individuals who have retired in FY11. Generally if you really trace back our history over the past probably the trailing maybe 7 years, you will find we usually retire about 7 individuals a year. In the past couple of years we have been well below that number.

Chairman Deane

Due to the economy I would imagine.

Brian Morrissey

We also do have hiring cycles so if you go back 20-25 years ago you will find there were a few years where we didn't hire any individuals. So you see that trend; you will go a period of time, we may have gone 18-20 months where we didn't bring anybody in a number of years ago. So then you will go that block as they get towards the retirement age also.

Chairman Deane

We did a matrix on the public works pension plan to see how the employees that were there...at one point in time there was a whole bunch of people hired at the same time and then you look at the eligibility for those people to retire to see what sort of attrition we would have there.

So the attrition that was factored in here, I guess it would be business as usual until we got to the bitter end.

Brian Morrissey

We would start to project it potentially closer to the first of the year.

Chairman Deane

Okay so we would be looking at 6 months and then you would be tracking that as we moved out towards the end of the year, but if you stated that you had a week's worth of salary left ...

Brian Morrissey

Before charge backs we end up with that generally.

Chairman Deane

Okay. So this \$318,500 what does that represent for...that would represent one truck for three weeks or a little over three weeks?

Brian Morrissey

It is about \$2,600 a day. If you divide \$318,500 by the \$2,600 I think you will come way up to 70 odd days I would say, somewhere around there.

Keith Anderson

It is about 72 days.

Chairman Deane

So the \$318,000 represents 72 days?

Keith Anderson

Correct.

Brian Morrissey

I would have to look at that exactly, but I think that is where we are right?

Chairman Deane

So that is about two and a half months. Other than barring any catastrophes you must have some data on which stations see the most activity right?

Brian Morrissey

We wouldn't base it 100% on actual responses. If you go to the south end it would certainly not be in our best interest to close either company on Spit Brook Road whether it was a night, a weekend, if it was in the holiday season. We run into significantly long response times down there now. Both of those companies are fairly busy and if you lost one of those you could go from a 4 minute response potentially from the fire station down to Pheasant Lane Mall to waiting for a company from either Conant Road or Lake Street to get down there and then you are talking about 12 minutes.

We would really look at those. We have done some initial, there is a product that we use, it is a computer based product that will estimate response times, and when you plug in different variables, none of them look great, but sometimes you are factoring on high ends, but it does bring your response times even into if you were to move something out of Lake Street, because of the activity rate that we see of those companies responding if you put Ladder #2 out of service for example and Engine #2 was covering a run down at the south end you are still building significant response times into a good portion of Engine #2s response district when they are not in quarters. It takes a significant amount of timer to read the data.

Chairman Deane

When you look at that attrition number you don't think you are going to meet that number?

Brian Morrissey

The attrition number is okay. What we are doing is in the safety training division; currently we staff that 24 hours a day. We are going to eat most of this cost; about \$190,000 of the cost is going to come out of our safety division. The safety officer currently does a significant amount of compliance, they do incident management, and they do day-to-day training with our fire companies. That position we would probably only retain a quarter of that funding so we would eat a significant portion of that \$300,000 out of that particular line.

Chairman Deane

And what line is that?

Brian Morrissey

It is in the 11s. I think it is 11305.

Chairman Deane

And how much of that?

Brian Morrissey

We would probably retain ¼ of that funding.

Chairman Deane

Okay.

Brian Morrissey

That is the most significant single line item. Again, we have a couple of people; one of our fire prevention inspectors, one of the Fire Marshals retired. It is going to take us a couple of months to fill that position so we will eat some money out of that position. The Assistant Chief is retired and it is going to take us a few weeks to months to fill that position. There are a couple there that we are able to save some money on between now and the first of September or at least the middle of August.

Chairman Deane

So you will have a couple of months...

Brian Morrissey

Yeah you will eat that...

Chairman Deane

But those are funded at full rate right now.

Brian Morrissey

We haven't actually reduced any individual line items. We have made the reduction as a one number in the 11 series because there is still adjustments that we are continuing to make and we will make better predictions as we get into the early part of July and August.

Chairman Deane

But you have a Deputy Chief who has just retired...

Brian Morrissey

That position will be filled prior to the end of this fiscal year.

Chairman Deane

Will that position be filled paying somebody less than what the other three deputy chiefs make?

Brian Morrissey

I think it is part of the merit scale. I think what we have done in the past they go down one step.

Alderman Sheehan

Just to back up a little bit when we were talking about the insurance rates for properties and the time response because I am still also a little concerned about that, could you explain a little bit what a fire looks like to you if you get there under 4 minutes or maybe what it looks like at 6 minutes and are you concerned with any safety of anybody who is there trying to work that?

Brian Morrissey

Absolutely. Fire doubles in size every minute until it reaches a certain point until, in the fire department we call it flash over, which is a temperature inside of a building in which everything within the exposed area of the fire reaches its ignition point, and then the whole building will light up at one point. What happens is the earlier you get to a fire; if you get there in that 4 minute timeline and we get there with adequate staff and we are able to aggressively attack that fire where we have a much better chance of putting that fire down as a 1 or 2 room fire and the survivability rates are ten fold where they are as you get there later in the fire has more ability to advance.

Alderman Sheehan

Okay so are you concerned with either the people that would be inhabiting those buildings or the employees who are battling that fire?

Brian Morrissey

We would be concerned with both, the residents and the employees.

Alderman Sheehan

Sounds more important than the money now, when I was thinking about insurance rates that just seemed like it might be important. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Any more questions of the Chief? Being none, Chief thank you. I'm sorry Mayor Lozeau would you like to...

Mayor Lozeau

Thank you. I don't have a question, but I just, I'm hearing the discussion here and I don't want to diminish the concerns that we have, but I can assure you that this budget was put together, as Alderman Tabacsko was saying, with a clear look at it from all of the Commissioners, the Chief, and the current status of staff in the office, necessary resources, and things like that. We believe, and I don't want to lose that the Chief said that we believe that we can deliver the same level of service that we have been delivering. It might not be easy, there might have to be some choices made and things like that, but we are not looking at people not having responders, we're not looking at insurance rates hitting the roof all of a sudden because somebody finds out that maybe Nashua is having some budget troubles that are not much different than other communities where decisions like this have been made.

If this is a budget that at some point demonstrates to us that there is a problem then it is something that we will have to look at again. There is a reason that we have contingencies and things like that built into our budgets, and there are things we pay attention to. Over the last few years, I have not had the fire department necessarily see the same cuts as other departments. We have funded their vehicles. There is another vehicle that is a very expensive vehicle slated to be purchased through CERF in this fiscal year. Those are all decisions that we are making together as a group. I don't want people with the impression, and I'm particularly concerned with Alderman Clemons' remarks, that we are putting people in jeopardy because that is not what we are doing here. We're making a conscious choice based on all of the available information. It is not just about the money.

And as you all know, as you saw last night with the library contract, should we be in a position to be looking at some funds being returned depending on how negotiations go, that is about \$140,000 to the fire department. That could have a pretty good impact. These are all things that all of us, both us as policy makers and decision makers, the Chief and his staff as managers, and the employees of the fire department all have to come together to try to look at solving these problems. That is what this budget does. It gives the opportunity to solve those problems and to make the choices that we need to make based on the times we are in.

I appreciate Mr. Chairman the opportunity to take a moment to say that and to say to the Chief and the Commissioners and the staff that have participated in this budget process they do an amazing job. All of us know that. I have gone to almost every fire that goes beyond a 2 alarm. I see what they do. It is remarkable work, and we are truly blessed to have such a professional group in this city. I hope next year our choices are different, but this is what they are this year. I think they will continue to make us proud and protect our citizens, and I think we will continue to make sure that we are making the decisions to support them when we need to. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you. I don't agree with one thing the Mayor said. What Alderman Clemons was talking about wasn't just money it was about the responsibility of government in providing safety to our citizens. It wasn't just money he was talking about there so...

Mayor Lozeau

I understood that.

Alderman Wilshire

...and I agree with you also, I know that we have the best fire department there is and that they are going to

deliver a good quality product. But I won't be able to support this either if I think there is any risk at all to the safety of our citizens. I just wanted to put that out there. Thank you.

Alderman Sheehan

Is there enough lead time to know that you would need to make those sort of decisions to close in order for us to be able to bring in legislation to fund you through contingency so that didn't happen?

Brian Morrissey

We will keep you keenly aware of where the budget lays. As Alderman Tabacsko and Alderman Vitale come to the Board of Fire Commission meetings on a regular basis, Commissioner Gage as a Commissioner, I think we do a pretty good job every month of looking at the burn sheet, looking at the rates, looking at where our spending is, and we will continue to do that. We will do it even more so as we get into the new fiscal year. Again, we have some options that are available to us. I think we need to let everyone know that the options that we have available to us are limited so in order for us to keep everybody on the same page, we will make those decisions only if we have to and we will keep you informed as to where we are every step of the way as we get into FY12.

Alderman Sheehan

Thank you.

Kevin Gage, Commissioner, Board of Fire Commissioners

Thank you. Just very quickly, I also want to reiterate that we are here to oversee and make sure that the safety of the citizens is first. I think the Chief and the Assistant Chief have done an excellent job coming to us. There was a lot of discussion and some heartache within the Commission coming through with the request of the Mayor's office, but we felt that in the end the suggestions that the Chief presented to us were the best to deal with the situation we were dealt. Obviously I think the Commission as a whole; I will say appreciates some of the comments that have been made here regarding the funding. Nobody wants to see that happen, nobody wants to see companies close for a day or 70 days because response time is very important to the professional firefighters when they are going out doing their job. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

Thank you.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. I just want to say that I respectfully disagree with the Mayor. There is no doubt in my mind that she would not consciously jeopardize the citizens of Nashua. I understand that. We have a philosophy difference between us as far as how we perceive what should and shouldn't be done as far as the budget goes. I, however, feel that when it comes to the situation that we are in, which is that we're looking at a budget that teeters pretty much right down to the dollar as far as what is going to be acceptable to keep our fire department operating, I would much rather have the money in the budget already than to have the Chief come to us later on in the year and say well we had a bad year and now we need some more money. Just a philosophy difference.

Chief I appreciate if during the year if you ever do get to that point please reach out to me and to the rest of the board. I appreciate that. Again, it is more of a difference of philosophy than anything else. Thank you.

Chairman Deane

All set? Thank you Chief. Thank you civilian Anderson. Enjoy your retirement.

Keith Anderson

Thank you very much. It has been a pleasure working with you all.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you. You too.

Alderman Sheehan

Congratulations.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. Congratulations.

COMMUNICATIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

R-10-66

Endorser: Alderman Diane Sheehan

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$92,000 FROM ACCOUNT 591-86005
“FY2011 GENERAL CONTINGENCY” INTO ACCOUNT 577-11 “CODE
ENFORCEMENT, PAYROLL – FULL TIME”**

- Tabled 1/10/11

R-11-114

Endorser: Mayor Donnalee Lozeau

**RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2012 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR
THE CITY OF NASHUA GENERAL, ENTERPRISE, AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

- Public Hearing scheduled for 6/13/11 at 7:00 p.m. at NHS-North Auditorium
- Tabled 5/23/11

R-11-115

Endorsers: Mayor Donnalee Lozeau
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman Kathryn D. Vitale
Alderman Richard LaRose
Alderman Arthur T. Craffey, Jr.
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Jeffrey T. Cox

**AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER FUNDS BACK TO DEPARTMENTS BASED
ON HEALTH CARE CONCESSIONS**

- Tabled 5/23/11

O-10-23

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Barbara Pressly
**ESTABLISHING AN OMBUDSMAN FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA AND AUTHORIZING
THE TRANSFER OF \$60,000 FROM ACCOUNT 591-86005 “FY2011 GENERAL
CONTINGENCY” INTO ACCOUNT 501-53 “MAYOR’S OFFICE – PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES”**

- Tabled 8/5/10
- Also assigned to the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee; Tabled 8/12/10

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

Alderman Wilshire

You had mentioned that you were going to talk about the library schedule.

Chairman Deane

I’m going to take that up at our next meeting so I can get a copy to everyone.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared closed at 9:50 p.m.

Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Chairman, Budget Review Committee